funding under National Oilseeds Development Project and to be equally shared by the Centre and the State for the development of coconut.

Schemes for development of coconut are being implemented through Coconut Development Board and the Central Government do not administer any scheme for assistance direct from the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. Therefore, comments of the Board were sought on the Operational Plan prepared by Government of Kerala.

Board while commenting on the components of irrigation, yield potential, improved dry farming techniques, plant protection measures on root wild disease also indicated that Board was not consulted in drawing up the project and that the project submitted by the Board viz. "Integrated Farming in Coconut small holdings in Kerala" was more viable and production oriented.

Thereafter, Government of Kerala was advised on 9.5.89 that it would not be possible to provide assistance for coconut under National Oilseeds Development Programme/Oilseeds Production Thrust Project. They were also advised to consult/associate the Board in the formulation of a project on coconut.

Thereafter, no Project has been received from the Government of Kerala.

Kerala Project as a Part of Konkan Railway Project

534. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Kerala project would form part of the Konkan Railway schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Railway Industrial Project in Kerala

535. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not located a single major railway industrial project in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up any such major industry there in the immediate future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir; though no major railway industrial project has been located in Kerala, rail transport demand is being looked after by new lines, doublings and various other improvements.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Recognition to coconut as oilseed

536. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any request for recognising coconut as an oilseed; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Exploitation of Bidi workers

537. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bidi manufacturers are not paying wages to their workers for the rejected (chaant) Bidis, the sale of which